

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 9-15 were pending in the patent application. The Examiner has newly rejected Claims 1-2 and 9-15 under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by the Jonsson patent. For the reasons set forth below, Applicant believes that the claims as amended are patentable over the cited art and respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection.

The present application teaches and claims a network node device for automatically, dynamically, and selectively connecting one or more telephone wirelines to one or more wireless connections, with the aim of providing dynamic selective bridging of both incoming and outgoing calls to and from wireless devices based on unique identifying information, including privacy policies associated with the wireless devices to which the wireless connections are being made. The invention comprises steps and means for performing the steps, by a network node comprising one or more connections to one or more telephone wirelines; one or more wireless signal generators supporting one or more wireless connections; at least one storage location for storing unique service information comprising service available for each of a plurality of wireless devices; a

processor for accessing the storage location and for generating call processing signals based on the stored unique information; an interconnection switch that makes and breaks one or more interconnections between the telephone wirelines and the respective wireless signal generators to connect multiple co-pending incoming calls to more than one of the plurality of wireless devices in response to the call processing signals; and a bridge that dynamically bridges signals from multiple wireless connections to more than one of the telephone wirelines for outgoing calls from one or more of the wireless devices in response to call processing signals generated by the processor based on stored unique information (Claims 1 and 14).

The network node device may further include a verifier that verifies the validity of a request from a wireless device through a wireless connection for the bridging of signals (Claim 2), and may further be adapted to dynamically and selectively connect signals from wireless devices based on both unique identifier and unique service information (Claims 9 and 10), and the device may be adapted to alter the connection of signals dynamically, during use after a wireless connection has already been

made (Claims 11, 13 and 15) or may deny bridging (Claim 12).

Under the present invention, while multiple devices may share a telephone number, and the associated single wireline, the inventive network node and method allows selective connection across the different devices based on the unique information associated with each specific device, such that multiple co-pending incoming calls to a single telephone number and/or outgoing calls can be connected between multiple different wireless devices and the wirelines even when the wireless devices share the same telephone number. Applicant has amended the language of the independent claims to expressly recite that the service information is information regarding service available to each device, as taught by the Specification, for example on page 12, lines 4-6, page 12, line 18 and page 14, lines 17-19. Applicant has also amended the independent claims to recite that the invention connects multiple co-pending incoming calls to the same single telephone number, as expressly taught in the Specification, for example at page 5, lines 14-15, page 6, lines 15-16 and page 7, lines 6-8.

The Examiner has rejected all of the pending claims as anticipated by the Jonsson patent teachings. The Jonsson patent is directed to a system and method for providing

telephone service to each member of a group of subscribers. Under the Jonsson patent teachings, a subscriber group shares a subscription or account with a telephone provider. The overall account has limits as to how many channels and how many minutes can be used by the subscriber group (Col. 4, lines 10-12 and 33-34). While Jonsson states that "the service logic may also selectively allow a preselected number of simultaneous calls" (Col. 5, lines 58-60), those teachings refer only to outgoing calls by subscribers on the limited number of channels. A call in to the subscriber group is either a call to a single subscriber, identified by distinct and specific subscriber numbers (Col. 8, lines 62-65, or a call to the group that can be answered by only one subscriber (Col. 6, lines 18-24; Col. 8, lines 60-62; and Col. 9, lines 16-17).

Applicants respectfully assert that the Jonsson patent does not teach or suggest an interconnection switch as claimed. Jonsson may connect a single incoming individual call to one device or may connect a single incoming group call to one device. Jonsson does not teach or suggest connecting multiple co-pending incoming calls, which overlap in time, for the same single called telephone number to more than one wireless device. Anticipation under 35 USC 102 is established only when a single prior

art reference discloses each and every element of a claimed invention. See: In re Schreiber, 128 F. 3d 1473, 1477, 44 USPQ2d 1429, 1431 (Fed. Cir. 1997); In re Paulsen, 30 F. 3d 1475, 1478-1479, 31 USPQ2d 1671, 1673 (Fed. Cir. 1994); In re Spada, 911 F. 2d 705, 708, 15 USPQ2d 1655, 1657 (Fed. Cir. 1990) and RCA Corp. v. Applied Digital Data Sys., Inc., 730 F. 2d 1440, 1444, 221 USPQ 385, 388 (Fed. Cir. 1984). Since Jonsson does not teach or suggest all of the claim features, and specifically does not teach a switch and steps for connecting multiple co-pending incoming calls to different devices, it cannot be maintained that the claimed invention is anticipated by the Jonsson patent teachings.

Based on the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claim language, withdrawal of the rejections, and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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